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### Faculty Recital:Michelle Vought, Soprano

Michelle Vought Soprano  
*Illinois State University*

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*Illinois State University*

*School of Music*

*A Faculty Recital*  
*[Featuring Contemporary Music]*

*Michelle Vought, Soprano*

*Nancy Pounds, Piano*

*with*

*Guest Faculty*

*Kate Hamilton, Viola*

*William Koehler, Double Bass*



*The Ninety-first Program of the 2001-2002 Season.*

*Kemp Recital Hall*  
*Tuesday Evening*  
*March 19, 2002*  
*8:00 p.m.*

## Program

## Program Notes

from *The Rake's Progress* (1951)

I Go to Him

*Nancy Pounds, Piano*

Igor Stravinsky

(1882-1971)

***I GO TO HIM (The Rake's Progress)-Igor Stravinsky***

Igor Stravinsky composed his three act opera *The Rake's Progress* (1948-51) to a libretto by W. H. Auden and Chester Kallman. Tom Rakewell deserts Anne Truelove to go to London. Nick Shadow, who takes control of Tom's destiny, eventually reveals himself as the Devil and claims Tom's soul. Tom manages to keep his soul but declines into madness. The Epilogue states the moral: "For idle hearts and hands and minds, the Devil finds a work to do." In this aria Anne resolves to go to London and rescue Tom.

Three Chinese Love Songs (1988)

Blue Flower

At the Hillside Where Horses Are Running

The Stream Flows

*Kate Hamilton, Viola*

*Nancy Pounds, Piano*

Bright Sheng

(born 1955)

***THREE CHINESE LOVE SONGS-Bright Sheng***

A note from the composer:

Three Chinese Love Songs was requested by Seiji Ozawa as one of the commissioned works for the celebration of Leonard Bernstein's 70th birthday at Tanglewood in August, 1988. Setting Chinese folk songs seemed natural and appropriate. Three Chinese Love Songs was premiered on August 26, 1988, on a program entitled "Tributes in Song to Leonard Bernstein" at Tanglewood.

Two Songs (1997)

Eulogy on the Death of Trees

Wind Thoughts

*Matt Lorz, Reader*

Dinos Constantinides

(born 1929)

***Blue Flower***

Golden thread and blue thread,

They are so pretty,

Just like the beautiful girl,

Her name is Blue Flower.

from *The Telephone* (1947)

Hello

*Nancy Pounds, Piano*

Gian Carlo Menotti

(born 1911)

***At the Hillside Where Horses Are Running***

At the hillside where horses are running,

Right above it is the beautiful cloud,

Which shines over,

The city of Kang-Ding,

## Intermission

Venal Vera (2000)

Nancy Van de Vate

(born 1930)

So pretty is,

The girl from Lee's family,

So much in love with her is,

The boy from Zang's family.

The Last Contrabass in Las Vegas (1974)

Eugene Kurtz

(born 1923)

***The Stream Flows***

The rising moon shines brightly,

It reminds me of my love in the mountains.

Like the moon, you walk in the sky,

As the crystal stream flows down the mountain.

The rising moon shines brightly,

It reminds me of my love in the mountains.

A clear breeze blows up the hill,

My love, do you hear I am calling you?

*William Koehler, Double Bass*

### *Two Songs - Dinos Constantinides*

The music of Dinos Constantinides has been performed throughout the world. He is the recipient of many grants, commissions and awards, including first prize in the 1981 Brooklyn College International Chamber Opera Competition and the 1985 First Midwest Chamber Opera Conference. He also received the 1985 American New Music Consortium Distinguished Service Award, the 1989 Glen Award of l' Ensemble of New York, several Meet the Composer grants and numerous ASCAP Standard Awards. In 1994 he was honored with a Distinguished Teacher White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.

### *Venal Vera - Nancy Van de Vate*

Nancy Van de Vate has composed more than 130 works in virtually all forms, from a composition for solo instrument based on only one note to grand opera. She has received awards and commissions from the National Endowment for the Arts, Maryland State Arts Council, Meet the Composer, American Association of University Women, Austrian Ministry for Education and the Arts, Austrian Foreign Ministry, City of Vienna, and many other organizations. She founded and serves as President for the recording company Vienna Modern Masters, a company which specializes in recording contemporary music.

Venal Vera, for soprano or mezzo with accompaniment of bass clarinet and percussion, was completed in early 2000. Along with the composer's two earlier works, Cocaine Lil (1987) and A Night in the Royal Ontario Museum (1983), it forms a short trilogy of ironic music theater pieces for soprano. The work received its world premiere in Toronto on November 5, 2000 with Michelle Vought, to whom it is dedicated, as soloist.

### *The Last Contrabass in Las Vegas - Eugene Kurtz*

The composer Eugene Kurtz wrote a number of contemporary pieces for bass violin. One of his early works is entitled "*Improvisations*". Like *Improvisations*, *The Last Contrabass in Las Vegas* sounds free, but is very structured in that the composer clearly notates everything that the bassist does. This piece reflects a time in the 1970's which was one of the Timbral exploration and extended techniques for every musical medium. Bertram Turetzky, to whom this piece is dedicated, was a champion for ne music premiering many works by noted composers such as John Cage and Pauline Oliveros.